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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/019,402

Based on Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/JP00/04337

Examiner: D. A. Jagoe

Filed: December 28, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1614

For: COMPOSITIONS FOR FOODS, PROCESS
FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND
FUNCTIONAL FOODS AND DRINKS
CONTAINING THE SAME

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 13, 2003

Dear Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Official action mailed December 11, 2002. The Official action set forth a one-month period for response, making this response due on or before January 11, 2003. Since January 11, 2003, was a Saturday, this response can be timely filed on the following business day, Monday, January 13, 2003.

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. The Official Action set forth a combination restriction/election of species requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 between the following inventions or groups of